



NEWS RELEASE
United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
Northeastern Regional Office
4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 Harrisburg, PA 17112



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 4, 2019

Contact: Suzanne Richards
(800) 498-1518
Suzanne.Richards@usda.gov

USDA to Collect Vegetable Data in the Northeastern United States

HARRISBURG, PA— In the coming months, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct the Vegetable Grower Inquiry Survey. The agency plans to visit vegetable growers across the United States, including over 4,000 in the Northeastern Region.

NASS conducts this vegetable survey once per year to obtain the final acreage, production, and value of sales for fresh and processed vegetables. "When growers respond to these surveys, they provide essential information that helps us determine the production and supply of these commodities in the United States for the 2019 crop year. Everyone who relies on agriculture for their livelihoods is interested in the results," explained King Whetstone, director of the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office.

NASS gathers the data for these surveys online, by mail, over the phone and through in-person interviews. The surveys will be conducted from *October 29, 2019 through December 19, 2019*. Growers provide information on crop acreage, production, and value of sales. NASS will compile and analyze the survey data and publish the results in a series of USDA reports, including the *Annual Vegetable Release*, scheduled for February 13, 2020.

"NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only State and National level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," stated Whetstone. "We recognize this is a hectic time for farmers and ranchers, but the information they provide helps U.S. agriculture remain viable and capable. I urge them to respond to these surveys and thank them for their cooperation," said Whetstone.

All reports are available on the NASS website: <https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/>. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Pennsylvania Field Office at (800) 498-1518.

###

NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.